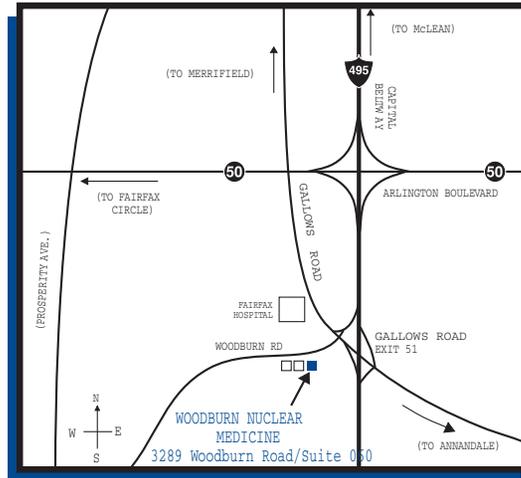


Welcome to Woodburn Nuclear Medicine!

Your physician has referred you for a Hepatobiliary (HIDA) Scan. Our goal is to provide the best possible medical care for you and your family. Patient care is our top priority. Our staff is available to answer questions and ensure your comfort before, during, and after your exam.

Our facility is conveniently located and is wheelchair accessible.



Directions :

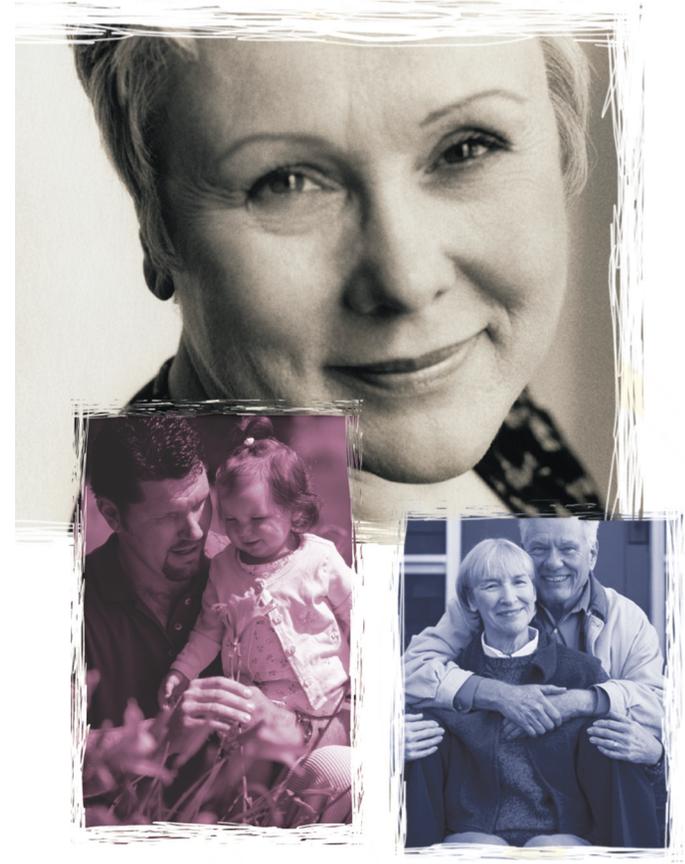
Route 495 South: Exit 51 (Gallows Road) Proceed straight across Gallows Road onto Woodburn Road to the first building on the left.

Route 495 North: Exit 51 (Gallows Road) Turn left onto Gallows Road then left onto Woodburn Road to the first building on the left.



**Woodburn Nuclear Medicine
Metro Region PET Center**

3289 Woodburn Road • Suite 060
Annandale, VA 22003
Phone: (703) 698-0666 • Fax (703) 573-6120
www.woodburnmed.com



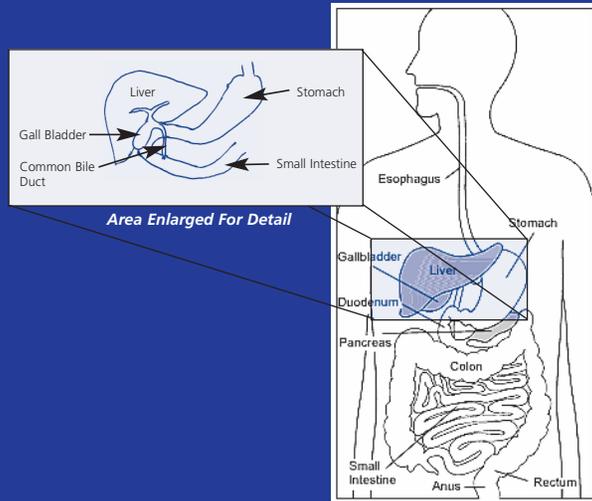
Patient Name: _____

Appointment Date/Time: _____



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What is a hepatobiliary (HIDA) scan?

A HIDA scan is a nuclear medicine test which examines the flow of bile as it is produced in the liver and travels into the gallbladder and small intestine. Gallbladder inflammation (cholecystitis) can prevent the gallbladder from filling with bile or emptying correctly. A HIDA scan can test for abnormal gallbladder function, as a cause of abdominal pain.

How long will the test take?

A HIDA scan normally takes 1 1/2 - 2 hours.

How should I prepare for the test?

You should have nothing to eat or drink for at least four hours prior to your scheduled appointment time.

What will I experience during the scan or test?

A small amount of a radioactive tracer will be injected into a vein in your arm. Then, a nuclear camera will take sequential images of your upper abdomen. It is very important that you lie still during the imaging process.

After one hour of imaging you will receive a second injection of sincalide, a drug that causes the gallbladder to contract. Imaging will be carried out for an additional 30 minutes. Some patients experience mild and transient abdominal discomfort from the sincalide.

Why is this test usually performed?

HIDA scans are often performed in patients with abdominal pain. Your doctor wants to find out if the gallbladder and the ducts that transfer bile are the cause of the pain. Abdominal pain can be caused by an inflamed or scarred gallbladder. Blockage of the flow of bile into the intestines can also cause pain.

What is sincalide?

Sincalide (also known as Kinevac) is a medication that causes the gallbladder to contract and empty its contents into the small bowel. The drug is based on the natural hormone cholecystokinin, which is produced by the body in response to ingestion of a fatty meal.

Will I be exposed to radiation?

The radiation in a HIDA scan is comparable to that received in two chest x-rays. The tiny amount of radioactive material used for the HIDA scan is rapidly eliminated from the body.

Are there any reactions to the injections?

The radioisotope used for the HIDA scan is non-allergenic and produces no adverse reactions. The sincalide can produce mild and transient abdominal discomfort.

What if I might be pregnant?

Generally, nuclear medicine tests are not performed during pregnancy. All women of child-bearing age will be asked to affirm that they are not pregnant. Exceptional cases will be discussed with your referring physician.

When will my doctor receive the results?

A typed report is usually faxed to your doctor's office the same day as your scan. An original copy of the report is mailed to your doctor in one to two days.



At Woodburn Nuclear Medicine, we perform HIDA scans and other nuclear medicine studies in a comfortable, outpatient environment.



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